38
39 **IN THE CLAIMS**

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42   Please amend claims 1, 8, 12, 17, and 24.

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44
45   Please enter the pending claims, including claims 1-27 as follows:

46

47

48   1. (Currently Amended)   A method ~~for caching multimedia content to an~~

49   ~~occasionally-connected device,~~ comprising:

50   creating a play list based ~~at least in part~~ on a user's preferences;

51   connecting a device of the user to a network;

52   submitting the play list to a multimedia content provider through [[a]] the

53   network;

54   ~~downloading~~ gathering multimedia content specified in the play list;

55   downloading the multimedia content to a multimedia content cache in

56   [[a]] the device ~~when the device is connected to the multimedia content provider~~

57   ~~and caching the multimedia content on the device~~;

58   disconnecting the device from the network; and

59   playing the ~~cached~~ multimedia content on the device ~~while the device is~~

60   ~~not connected to the multimedia content provider~~.

61

1   2. (Original)   The method of claim 1, wherein creating a play list comprises:

2   creating an initial play list based on at least one of the following: the user's

3   specifications, a play list pre-defined by the user, and a play list pre-determined

4   by the multimedia content provider;

5   expanding the initial play list by recommending to the user additional

6   content based on the user's preferences; and

7   refining the expanded initial play list based on the user's feedback.

8

1   3. (Original) The method of claim 2, wherein expanding the initial play list

2   comprises cross-pollinating the initial play list using play lists of other users.

3

1   4. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the device comprises a portable

2   device.

3

1   5. (Original) The method for claim 1, wherein playing the multimedia content

2   comprises accessing the multimedia content and rendering the multimedia

3   content to the user.

4

1   6. (Original) The method for claim 5, wherein accessing the multimedia content

2   comprises at least one of the following: unpacking, decrypting, decompressing,

3   and decoding the multimedia content.

4

1   7. (Original) The method for claim 1, wherein the network comprises at least

2   one of the following: a local area network, a wide area network, the Internet, a

3   terrestrial broadcast network, and a wireless network.

4

1   8. (Currently Amended) A method for distributing multimedia files,

2   comprising:

3   connecting occasionally to a device through the Internet;

4   accepting a play list of multimedia files from a user of the device;

5   searching a database for multimedia content according to the play list;

6   processing the multimedia content before the multimedia content is

7 downloaded; and

8   transferring the multimedia content to ~~an occasionally-connected~~ the

9 device.

10

1 9. (Original) The method of claim 8, wherein the occasionally-connected device

2 comprises a portable device.

3

1 10. (Original) The method of claim 8, wherein processing the multimedia files

2 comprises at least one of the following: packaging, encrypting, compressing, and

3 encoding the multimedia files.

4

1 11. (Original) The method of claim 8, wherein the database comprises at least

2 one of static and dynamic multimedia content.

3

1 12. (Currently Amended) A system ~~for caching multimedia contents to an~~

2 ~~occasionally-connected device,~~ comprising:

3   a play list creator capable of creating a play list of multimedia files;

4   a multimedia content provider capable of providing multimedia files

5 specified by the play list for a user to download;

6   a multimedia content cache capable of receiving the multimedia files

7 through a network while occasionally connected and storing the multimedia

8 files; and

9   a multimedia content player capable of accessing and rendering the

10   multimedia contents to the user.

11

1   13. (Original) The system of claim 12, wherein the play list creator comprises:

2   a play list generating mechanism capable of generating a play list;

3   a pre-determining mechanism capable of at least one of the following:

4   receiving parameters specifying the user's preferences, loading a user pre-

5   defined play list, and providing a number of play lists pre-determined by the

6   multimedia content provider;

7   a recommendation mechanism capable of expanding the play list by

8   recommending additional multimedia files; and

9   a user feedback uploading mechanism capable of uploading the user

10   feedback to refine the play list.

11

1   14. (Original) The system of claim 12, wherein the multimedia content provider

2   comprises:

3   a communication port;

4   a multimedia content database;

5   a searching mechanism capable of searching the multimedia content

6   database for multimedia files in the play list; and

7   a content processing mechanism capable of at least one of the following:

8   packaging, encrypting, compressing, and encoding the multimedia files.

9

1   15. (Original0 The system of claim 12, wherein the multimedia content cache

2   comprises:

3   a communication port;

4   a receiving component capable of downloading and receiving the

5   multimedia files from the multimedia content provider through a network; and

6   a storage component capable of storing the multimedia files.

7

1   16. (Original)   The system of claim 12, wherein the multimedia content player

2   comprises:

3   a multimedia content access module capable of at least one of the

4   following: unpacking, decrypting, decompressing, and decoding the multimedia

5   files stored in the multimedia content cache; and

6   a multimedia content rendering mechanism capable of rendering the

7   multimedia files to a user.

8

1   17. (Currently Amended)   An article comprising: a machine accessible medium

2   having content stored thereon, wherein when the content is accessed by a

3   processor, the content provides for caching multimedia content to ~~an~~

4   ~~occasionally connected~~ a device by:

5   creating a play list based ~~at least in part~~ on ~~a user's~~ preferences <u>of a user of</u>

6   <u>the device</u>;

7   submitting the play list to a multimedia content provider through a

8   network <u>while the device is occasionally connected</u>;

9   downloading multimedia content in the play list to a device when the

10   device is connected to the multimedia content provider and caching the

11   multimedia content on the device; and

12   playing the cached multimedia content while the device is not connected

13   to the multimedia content provider.

14

1   18. (Original) The article of claim 17, wherein the content for creating a play list

2   comprises content for:

3   creating an initial play list based on at least one of the following: the user's

4   specifications, a play list pre-defined by the user, and a play list pre-determined

5   by the multimedia content provider;

6   expanding the initial play list by recommending to the user additional

7   content based on the user's preferences; and

8   refining the expanded initial play list based on the user's feedback.

9

1   19. (Original) The article of claim 18, wherein the content for expanding the

2   initial play list comprises cross-pollinating the initial play list using play lists of

3   other users.

4

1   20. (Original) The article of claim 17, wherein the device comprises a portable

2   device.

3

1   21. (Original) The article for claim 17, wherein the content for playing the

2   multimedia content comprises content for accessing the multimedia content and

3   content for rendering the multimedia content to the user.

4

1   22. (Original) The article for claim 21, wherein the content for accessing the

2   multimedia content comprises content for at least one of the following:

3   unpacking, decrypting, decompressing, and decoding the multimedia content.

4

1   23. (Original) The article for claim 17, wherein the network comprises at least

2   one of the following: a local area network, a wide area network, the Internet, a

3   terrestrial broadcast network, and a wireless network.

4

1   24. (Currently Amended)   An article comprising: a machine accessible medium

2   having content stored thereon, wherein when the content is accessed by a

3   processor, the content provides for distributing multimedia files by:

4   accepting a play list of multimedia files;

5   searching a database for multimedia content according to the play list;

6   processing the multimedia content before the multimedia content is

7   downloaded; and

8   transferring the multimedia content to an occasionally-connected device

9   <u>while connected</u>.

10

1   25. (Original)   The article of claim 24, wherein the occasionally-connected device

2   comprises a portable device.

3

1   26. (Original)   The article of claim 24, wherein the content for processing the

2   multimedia files comprises content for at least one of the following: packaging,

3   encrypting, compressing, and encoding the multimedia files.

4

27. (Original)   The article of claim 24, wherein the database comprises at least one

of static and dynamic multimedia content.